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Paullin, Charles O. *Diplomatic Negotiations of American Naval Officers, 1778-1883.* Pp. 380. Price \$2.00. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1912.

This book comprises the Albert Shaw Lectures on Diplomatic History for 1911 at Johns Hopkins University. In it the author recounts the peaceful achievements of the American navy in the field of diplomacy. It is more than a collection of detached diplomatic activities of American naval officers, as its title might imply. It is a well-defined, unified work that deals with the American sailor-diplomat and his contribution to American diplomacy.

There are points of similarity that characterize the negotiations of the American naval officer, which the author clearly indicates as his lectures progress, such as (a) the character of the country with which he negotiated; (b) the subject matter of the treaties which he sought to negotiate; (c) the methods used in negotiating.

The countries were, in the main, backward, undeveloped, non-Christian and beyond the pale of civilization. They either adopted a policy of seclusion and isolation, such as China, Japan, Korea, etc., or a policy of ransom and tribute, such as the Barbary States. With the first group the problem was one of friendship and commerce, and the treaties sought to be negotiated contained shipwreck conventions, the most-favored-nation clause, and provisions for the opening of ports; with the second group the problem was one of chastisement, and the treaties, while nominally of amity and commerce, were really intended to abolish the heinous practice of piracy and tribute.

The American naval officer is the "shirt-sleeve" diplomat par excellence. He is blunt in his negotiations, speaks in the language of the cannon, negotiates his treaties as result of ultimatums and takes care to have them signed within range of his ship's guns. "Punch" summed up our sailor-diplomat's task when it declared that Commodore Perry must open the Japanese ports even if he had to open his own.

The contributions of the American naval officer to American diplomacy are noteworthy, as the lectures admirably narrate. He usually negotiated the first treaty with the country to which he was accredited, and in notable instances not only for his own country but for the civilized world as well. Particularly noteworthy are the achievements of Commodore Robert W. Shufeldt in Korea and Commodore Matthew C. Perry in Japan. Both missions illustrate the peaceful successes of American naval diplomacy, for each accomplished tasks that had baffled the leading European powers, and each attained his object without the firing of a shot or the engendering of ill-feeling of the nation in question.

There is, however, a slight break in the unity of the author's theme. Chapter one is devoted to the so-called diplomatic feats of John Paul Jones. It recites his efforts to obtain a loan of men-of-war from France and to settle prize claims (on a five per cent commission basis) with France and with Denmark. Jones' diplomatic achievements in France dwindle into insignificance when it is recalled that so able a diplomat as Dr. Franklin, then minister to France, was on the scene and made easy the sailor's negotiations. Moreover, Jones' duties and negotiations were so unlike those of other American naval officers described in the lectures, who dealt with non-Christian countries, with their problems of opening of ports, establishment of trade and of consulates and the abolishment of piracy

and of the practice of levying tribute that the break in the unity of the author's theme becomes all the more perceptible.

As a study in diplomacy from a new viewpoint—that of the navy—the book is a valuable contribution to American diplomacy. It is authoritative and contains valuable footnotes with references to original sources and correspondence, that indicate the wide range of the author's research and authority.

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Porter, Robert P. *The Full Recognition of Japan.* Pp. x, 789. Price \$4.00. New York: Oxford University Press, 1911.

Changes in Japan are so great and her growth so rapid that even recent books dealing with the economic and social conditions of that empire are out of date. Hence this latest and comprehensive work, which is "a detailed account of the economic progress of the Japanese Empire to 1911," is most welcome by students of the Far East. It supplies a great need. It has brought together, in one large volume and in most available form, the essential facts of the intensely interesting story of Japan's phenomenal progress in recent years, not simply in economic growth, as the sub-title indicates, but also, in some degree, in its social, political, educational, military and literary advancement.

The book, however, is far more than a handbook on Japan, although by virtue of the great variety of topics treated and the marshaling of the latest facts and figures in connection with those topics, it may well serve that purpose. It is an explanation and interpretation of the progress of Japan given by a careful and sympathetic observer and student. The reader may feel that at times the author's optimistic views in regard to Japan's economic and political future are a result of a very apparent warm sympathy for and admiration of the Japanese, and may not be altogether warranted by the facts, as measured by her resources. It is true that very little is said of Japan's disadvantages or of existing evils and deficiencies. But it must be remembered that this book is a record of progress, not of failures; of things done, not of reforms that must be effected. And thus, measured by her accomplishments in the brief space of forty years, Japan's progress is nothing short of phenomenal in all departments of life, be it political, industrial or social. The reading of this book cannot but strengthen and prove this assertion. That there are physical limitations to this development, however, must be recognized. But the author is even more sanguine in his belief in the industrial future of Japan than many of the Japanese themselves.

The forty-nine chapters into which the book is divided may be grouped under four heads. The first six chapters are historical, tracing the national and economic development of Japan from early times through the period of the Shogunate and the period of reconstruction to the "full recognition of Japan" in recent years as a Power of the first class. In these chapters it is interesting to note the author's recognition of the influence of geographical features upon the Japanese character and development. The next group of chapters (vii to xxvii) may be regarded as dealing principally with the commercial geography of Japan. Here are chapters on the physical characteristics of the islands; the population; soil, forests and mineral resources; industrial progress; trade; cities, etc. Chapters on the